Emscote Express

Issue 6, 1st December 2023



Dear parents and carers,

Here we are in December and school is certainly gearing up for the wonderful performances and celebrations we have in store this month. EYFS are looking forward to welcoming adults to their first Christmas and Winter Craft day on Wednesday and you may find by Thursday morning the school has a little bit of sparkle! Please do refer to the dates section below with all of the times you will need over the coming weeks. Information regarding ticket requests has been sent out from the office team so please do confirm your requirements.

Thank you to our wonderful children in the Federation Choir who performed alongside Mrs Hart at All Saints' Church on Saturday 25th November. The children were invited to sing as part of the Christmas Fayre which was hosted by local residents in aid of Cancer Research UK.

Thank you to those parents who completed our questionnaire recently. We were delighted with the overwhelmingly positive feedback and some truly lovely comments about our School. We are of course always looking for ways to improve and have taken all comments on board. Please see the feedback for your perusal and as always, if you have any questions about your child's learning and progress, please make an appointment to speak to your child's teacher. Note: Some of the colours are similar in the charts, please refer to the key!

Use of mobile phone images taken in school.

We recognise that at times parents will want to take photographs or videos of their child at school, for example, when they are receiving a certificate in celebration assembly or during a Christmas performance and we want to support parents capturing these special moments. We must ask however, that parents only take images of their own child and if another child is inadvertently included in an image that this is not shared on Social Media. We need to consider the safety of all pupils and we thank you for your support with this.

Stationary vehicles

Please may we ask that you kindly consider the impact of stationary vehicles with engines running outside of school at pick up and drop off times. We appreciate that many parents and carers drive to school, but we must ask that parents switch off their engines. We want to ensure that children are not breathing in unnecessary pollutants from idle engines and hope that you will support us with this request.

Makaton -sign of the week

Have a lovely weekend. Mrs Nicol



Tues 5th Dec Year 1 trip to John's Museum

Wed 6th Dec

Tues 12th Dec

Wed 13th Dec

Wed 13th Dec

Thurs 14th Dec

Fri 15th Dec

Mon 18th Dec

Wed 20th Dec

Thurs 21st Dec

Fri 22nd Dec

Mon 8th Jan

Tues 9th Jan

Museum

Reception year
Christmas craft day

Reception Year

Performances 10am

Performances 10am

Year 2 Carol Service

5.30pm at All Saints'

Christmas Church

PTA Christmas Fayre

Christmas Lunch and

Christmas Parties

Last Day of Term

Children return to

Inset Day

school

Christmas Jumper Day

Book sharing

5-7pm

around the world

Year 1 Christmas

Christmas

and 2pm

and 2pm

Church

Service

Dates for the Diary 2023/24

Victorian Christmas Workshop. Consent form and payment details have been sent out. Please pay at

Parents will be invited to join their child/ren for a Christmas craft event, this will be a morning or

We kindly ask that parents and carers make

alternative arrangements for younger siblings, as

from experience, younger children can be disruptive

to our young performers. We appreciate your help on

this matter.

9.15am at All Saints' Church, parents welcome to join

us for refreshments straight after morning drop off.

Parents are invited to look through their children's

On 20th December, we will be taking part in Save the Children's Christmas Jumper Day. Children can wear

their Christmas jumpers and donate £1 (or however

much you can give), to support children in the UK and

Children come to school in party clothes and enjoy a party food lunch all together in the hall. After lunch

books in the classroom from 2.30pm

each class enjoys a Christmas party

www.eduspot.co.uk by 1st December.

afternoon session. More details to follow







Christingles are used in some Christian churches during the time of advent. Christians think about the hope that the light of Jesus brings to the world. We helped Rev. Diane with the the nativity, then each made a Christingle.

We made umbrellas from different materials to find out which was the most waterproof.











Firefighter visit

17.11.23



When the firefighters came to visit today we learnt a bit about water safety and railway danger.



We guessed
what can
cause fires
and then
played a game
thinking about
what activities
are safe and
unsafe.

What can cause a fire?













We learnt about the firefighters uniform and how important the different parts are for keeping them safe in fires.

If there is a fire call 999

We learnt what a smoke alarm sounds like, how important they are and the importance of testing them every week.



We watched a video that explained to the children how to get out of the house quickly and safely in a fire.

PIC.COLLAGE

Summary of Parent Feedback November 2023

64 relies. Some % don't add to 100% due to	Agree or strongly agree	Disagree or strongly disagree	Not answered or neutral
rounding. My child is happy at this school.	97%	3%	
My child feels safe at this school	99%	1%	
The school makes sure its pupils are well	83%	8%	9%
behaved.	65%	070	576
My child has been bullied and the school	82%	7%	11% neutral
dealt with the bullying quickly and			
effectively.	83%	5%	420/
The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year (for example	83%	5%	12%
website, topic letters and newsletters).			
When I have raised concerns with the	83%	2%	14%
school they have been dealt with properly.	0370	270	1470
If yes, the survey asks parents how strongly	87%		13%
they agree with this statement: 'My child			
has SEND, and the school gives them the			
support they need to succeed.'			
The school has high expectations for my child.	69%	3%	27%
My child does well at this school.	87%	0	13%
The school lets me know how my child is	83%	8%	9%
doing.			
There is a good range of subjects available	83%	1%	16%
to my child at this school.			
My child can take part in clubs and	92%	8%	
activities at this school.			
The school supports my child's wider	75%	3%	22%
personal development (mental health, growth mindset, spiritual awareness, British			
Values, RSE (relationship and sex			
education).			
	l	l	

We would like to share with you a selection of comments from parents in response to the question: 'what features of your child's schooling do you think stand out and should be celebrated?'

- My favourite thing about school is how hard they work to boost everyone's confidence. Giving stickers
 as rewards and making kids feel good about themselves. Fantastic job by all the teachers!
- Nurturing atmosphere
- I love the community feel of the school and that many teachers seem to know my child's name already, everyone is so friendly and approachable
- Communication & support for parents
- Growth mindset
- Kindness and helpfulness
- Feels very friendly, inviting and safe.
- Inclusion
- Confidence and behaviour skills
- Weekly access to library books!
- Sense of support and personal growth
- Attitude and life skills training
- Small, community feel
- It is a lovely school that involves its community. There are plenty of opportunities to get involved with activities and events. The children are able to have specific roles such as school/eco council which helps to develop their confidence.

Help boost our budget with the My School Fund initiative

We're pleased to announce that Emscote Infant School is part of the My School Fund initiative. This innovative scheme allows for us to be able to boost our school's budget with your help.

How does it work?

Parents, guardians and carers can sign up to the scheme for free and start earning cashback on the things they buy in participating retail stores, including Sainsbury's and Argos. As you spend you'll receive 2% cashback in the form of eGift vouchers that can be redeemed in participating stores. By linking your spend to our school on the My School Fund website we'll also earn 1% cashback on your spend.

Add that all up across our school's network of families and together we can all make a big difference!

This term, thanks to the scheme, we have purchased a new storage unit for second hand uniform which is on display in our main reception area as well as a new Henry Hoover.

How to get involved

Visit myschoolfund.org to register for free and link to Emscote Infant School. From there, everything you spend in participating stores will go towards helping boost our budget, plus your own!

Sign up today at myschoolfund.org





Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST) Tips For Wellness:

DIGITAL DETOX

Technology has become a normal part of our day-to-day lives and is widely beneficial; from being used as an alarm to wake us up in the morning, to helping us stay connected with family, and watching our favourite programme wherever we are in the world! However, prolonged use of technology can increase stress levels and have an unhealthy impact on our mental wellbeing.

A digital detox can help to improve sleep quality, reduce stress and anxiety, enhance productivity, increase creativity, and improve self-awareness.

Our tips for digital detox:

- **1- Phone free zones**. Keeping phones out of certain rooms may help you to stick to your detox plan. This will remove the temptation to reach for your phone/mobile device and it allows you to enjoy your space away from technology!
 - 2- 30 minute rule. Try to swap using your phone before bed for a screen-free activity instead! This should be for at least the last 30 minutes of the day. The blue light from screens tricks our brain into thinking it is daytime, which disrupts the production of melatonin (the hormone we need to feel sleepy!) Activities could be reading, mindful colouring, tidying, journaling, playing a musical instrument, board games, meditation, completing a puzzle, or self-care.
 - 3- Take regular screen breaks. Stepping away from the screen helps us to balance our digital and real-world lives. This will also increase our self-awareness, productivity and overall happiness.

#ThanksKids recognises the efforts and kindness of children and young people, and thanks
them with personalised #NHSStars certificates. If you know a child or young person that
deserves recognition for going above and beyond, don't wait, nominate!

thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

MHST are available to support you and your school throughout the school year including term time and school holidays. Please contact your school's Mental Health Lead for information and advice.



Mental Health in Schools Team (MHST) Tips For Wellness:

THOUGHTFUL

Being thoughtful is when you think about how your actions and words will affect other people's feelings. Taking the time to make ourselves aware of the needs and feelings of others is great for our mental health, as it helps reduce stress, improve friendships and creates a sense of belonging.

Being thoughtful about ourselves can also improve self-awareness and help boost selfesteem.

Our tips for being thoughtful:

1- Small acts of kindness, e.g., smiling at someone, giving a hug to a loved one, holding the door open, giving a compliment to a friend, telling someone that they are important.

2- Classroom activity:

- -Each student should have a piece of paper and fold it in half.
- -On the left side, students should write the names of 5 people in the class they admire.
- -On the right side, students should write down the quality they admire most about each person (making sure each quality is different!)
 - -Tear off the left half of the paper (with names on) and keep the right half.
- -Students should read out their list of qualities. Discuss that they also have these qualities as they were able to recognise them in others!
 - -Ask students to read out their list of qualities again, starting the sentence with "I am..."
- 3- Create a thoughtful box in the classroom for students to write down compliments and kind messages about their peers. The thoughtful messages can be shared at the end of the week!

#ThanksKids recognises the efforts and kindness of children and young people, and thanks them with personalised #NHSStars certificates. If you know a child or young person that deserves recognition for going above and beyond, don't wait, nominate!

thankskids@covwarkpt.nhs.uk

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Join us this christmas!

3rd Sunday of the month at 10.30am



Contact Ania for more details:









Christmas Evo

4pm - Crib & Christingle "The Donkey's Story" (45mins-1hr)

9pm - Midnight Mass
"Bethlehem Time"
Christmas Communion
to welcome the Christ Child

WS NIGHT SHEITER Reverse advent Calendar 2023

Every day from 1st-24. December, , LWS Night Shelter will be posting an item on social media that they need most for the shelter. The idea is that people, households or schools/classrooms put each item in a box each day - just like an Advent Calendar but instead of getting something, you give something!

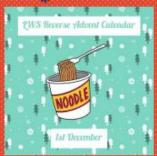
LWS Night Shelter will have a donation point in Leamington where you can bring the box the week before Christmas.

LWS Night Shelter provides a hot meal and safe place to sleep for homeless and vulnerably housed people of Leamington Spa, Warwick and the wider area. They currently provide meals for between 60-70 people each weekend, overnight accommodation for 10-15 people on Friday and Saturday and provide an average of 40-50 food parcels each weekend for the community.

All items received from the Reverse Advent Calendars will be given out to the LWS community. Further information about LWS Night Shelter can be found on their website https://www.lwsnightshelter.org and of course, they are happy to answer any questions you may have.



Reverse advent calendar 2023





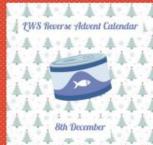












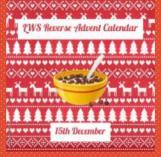








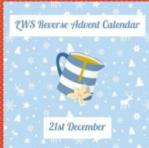




























May 2023

Winter HAF 23/24 Holiday Activities & Food (HAF)

Dear Parent/Carer,

The Department for Education (DfE) funds the Holiday Activities & Food (HAF) programme across the United Kingdom. At it's core, HAF provides young people the opportunity to access enriching activities alongside healthy meals over the main school holidays in Winter, Spring and Summer.

Please note that this programme is entirely separate from the <u>Local Welfare Scheme</u>'s household support funding (i.e. supermarket HUGGG vouchers).

Each eligible young person (in full-time education from Reception to Year 11 who receives benefits-related free school meals) with a HAF code can access a maximum of **4 sessions** over the winter holidays. Families have the flexibility to book with multiple activity providers if desired. All providers can request additional funding for 1-to-1 support if this is required, however this will depend on their staff availability and qualifications. We do have a number of SEND-specific activities which may be a more suitable option.



Family Information Service 0800 408 1558 fis@warwickshire.gov.uk Facebook: @WarwickshireFIS







Eligible families need to request a HAF Code via a brief online form. This can be found at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/haf or you can scan the QR code below. HAF codes are valid for the academic year, so if you've had a HAF code starting with a 'W' before, the same code can be used. If you need codes to be re-sent, just send us an email via hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk

For families not in receipt of benefits-related free school meals, we can release a limited number of HAF codes for each delivery period. A separate referral form will need to be completed on behalf of your family, if you're facing a significant financial barrier and one (or more) of the following criteria apply:

- · Have an allocated family support worker or social worker
- · On an open early help plan
- Your child(ren) acts as a young carer

The referral form is available upon request from a professional/allocated worker on hafprogramme@warwickshire.gov.uk

Winter activity listings will be available online from Tuesday 28th November 2023. Contact providers directly to discuss booking.

Scan the QR code below to visit the HAF website.

Thank you for your continued engagement with the Warwickshire HAF programme. Please contact us directly if you have any queries related to the HAF scheme.



Warwickshire HAF Team



Eamily Information Service 0800 408 1558 fis@warwickshire.gov.uk Facebook: @WarwickshireFIS









BT) Bishop's Tachbrook

Bishop's Tachbrook C of E Primary School Kingsley Road, Bishop's Tachbrook, Royal Learnington Spa CV33 9RY



CHILDCARE VOUCHERS & TAX-FREE CHILDCARE »







Aylesford School, Tapping Way Warwick CV34 6XR



Clopton Road, Stratford-upon-Avon Warwickshire CV37 6TE

Book now at onsidecoaching.co.uk



LatePickup

Just £5.00 extra

All children will be provided with

lunch. Please ensure your child has two refillable drinks bottles.

the 2nd December

Normal Dropoff

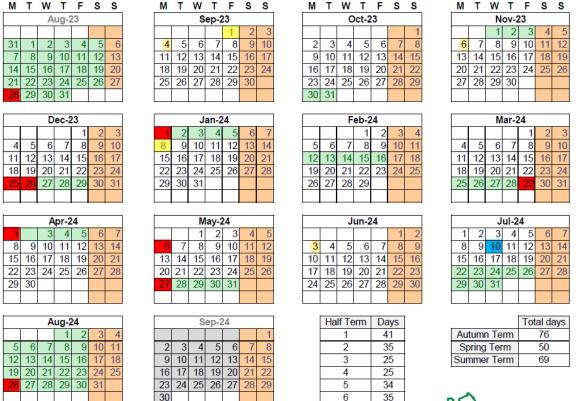
9:00am-9:30am 3:00pm-3:30pm

Early Dropoff

Just £2.50 extra











Total

195

FREE SCHOOL

School meals are free for lots of families, check if you are eligible to apply!

So much more than lunch...

A free school meal:

- creates healthy eating habits
- improves learning and behaviour
- saves money and time
- helps schools get extra funding

Did you know
that claiming free
that claiming free
school meals
school meals
means that your
means that your
defined will get access
child will get access
child will get access
holiday activities
holiday activities
and food?







Can l apply?

Your child could be eligible for free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support or Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

child is aged 4-7

You should still apply if your

and receives a universal free

school meal

- Support from National Asylum Support Service (NASS)
- Guarantee Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit
- Universal Credit If you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)

Find out more and apply at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/fsm







Coolsportz January

2024 Camps

8.30-3.30pm or 8.30-12pm Tues 2nd - Fri 5th Jan Ages 4-16 years @ Warwick Tc

Ofsted Registered

Childcare/Tax Free Vouchers accepted and HAF codes

Rounders - Cricket - & more Tennis - Football - Hockey -

Book online www.coolsportz.co.uk

10% OFF IF BOOKED BY 18TH DEC





18 - 22 December 2 - 5 January

Fun short courses and Super Choice for Years 2-7 Multi activities for Reception and Year 1



christmas-activities-2023



Other venues include warwick, Leamington & Coventry!

NETBALL FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN

Brand new weekly netball sessions at Kenilworth School for children aged Reception to Year 6.

Launching in January 2024, our weekly netball sessions on a Thursday evening are aimed at 4 to 11 year-olds.

Session 1 (Reception / Year 1/ Year 2 / Year 3) 6:00-6:45pm Session 2 (Year 4 / Year 5 / Year 6) 6:00-7:00pm

First session for free, sign up now!



What parents say about Kid Squad...

"My daughter is having an amazing time with Kid Squad Warwickshire. She loves her netball training. Can't speak highly enough of the coaches, they are empowering the kids for sure. Highly recommend for anyone looking to start a journey in netball." "This is such a funtastic club. My daughter absolutely loves the training sessions and the league matches. Her knowledge, skills and confidence have improved significantly since joining and this is all down to the quality teaching and care from the wonderful coaches."

"Kid Squad is the netball club that every primary-aged kid needs in their life?"

"My daughter LOVES going to Kid Squad Warwickshire. Kid Squad is a fantastic introduction to netball for primary age school children - something that seemed to be lacking in typical girls team sports in the area. The sessions are run by coaches who are clearly passionate about netball and sport in general. A great opportunity for children to make friends, keep fit & agile, develop hand/eye coordination skills, learn drills & new skills and play together as a team,"

"This has been a fantastic group for my daughter to join. Learning nelball skills, gaining confidence and playing with girls from all different schools. The coaches are fab, always developing them and making them feel special."

ww.kidsquadwarwickshire.co.uk/Kenilworth







WARWICKSHIRE

PARENT CARER VOICE

PARENT CARER FORUM

Are you a parent or carer of a child or young person aged 0-25 with special educational needs and/or disability (SEND)?





WARWICKSHIRE

PARENT CARER VOICE

CARER FORUM?

A parent carer forum is a group of parents and carers of disabled children. Their aim is to make sure the services in their area meet the needs of disabled children and their families. Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice is the recognised forum for Warwickshire. We are completely independent of Warwickshire County Council and the local health services.





Warwickshire Parent Carer Voice is a **parent carer led organisation** working to ensure that every parent carer in Warwickshire feels that their views and experiences matter, and gets their voice heard to develop and improve services for children and young people with special educational needs and/ or SEND.

We welcome any parent carer who lives (or uses services) in Warwickshire, with a child or young person (aged 0-25) regardless of their disabilities (no diagnosis necessary) to join us.

Tell us your experiences | Fill in our surveys | Join our meetings Spread the word | Join us as a Member

Visit our website: www.warwickshireparentcarervoice.org or email hello@warwickshireparentcarervoice.org for more information

WHAT DO PARENT CARER FORUMS DO?

We work with organisations that provide services for our families. We gather the views of local families and then work in partnership with local authorities, education settings, health providers and other providers to highlight where local services, processes and commissioners are working well, or challenge when changes or improvements need to be made.





GET INVOLVED - YOUR VOICE IS KEY TO OUR SUCCESS!

Visit our website: www.warwickshireparentcarervoice.org or email hello@warwickshireparentcarervoice.org for more information

Help to pay your household bills

Are you, or is anyone you know, struggling to pay energy bills?

If you or someone you know are struggling financially and unable to afford to pay their gas or electricity bill, please call the Local Welfare Scheme in confidence.

Call 0800 408 1448 between 4 and 22 April 2022.

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/localwelfarescheme



The Household
Support Fund
can help
households in
need of support



Do you need help to access food and manage your money?

www.warwickshire.gov.uk/facinghardship

Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme

The Warwickshire Local Welfare Scheme helps the most vulnerable residents at times of unavoidable crisis when they have no other means of help.

It also administers the Household Support Fund, which provides one-off financial support for people in need as the country continues its recovery from the pandemic. It can help families with children, other vulnerable households and individuals facing hardship this winter, to ensure that they have the support they need to afford food, energy, water bills and associated costs. To enquire or apply call the Local Welfare Scheme.

Visit: www.warwickshire.gov.uk/ localwelfarescheme Call: 0800 408 1448

or 01926 359182



